Patent Attorney's Docket No. <u>012627-003</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Hanswalter ZENTGRAF et al 8/9738/5) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Application No.: Unassigned (Corresponds to PCT/DE96/01016)) Examiner: Unassigned) .
International Filing Date: 10 June 1996))
For: DNASE-ACTIVE PROTEIN))

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claims 8-10, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Kindly add claims 11 - 12:

Β1

--11. A method for the prevention or treatment of a condition involving apoptosis, said method comprising administering a protein of claim 1, an antibody directed to said protein or a DNA encoding said protein to a patient in need of such prevention or treatment.